Eleven deacons ordained to ministry of service

BY TIM JOHNSON AND KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — “We give thanks to the Lord for the gift that he entrusts to these 11 men through the sacrament of Holy Orders. The call they have received is indeed a treasured gift, a gift for the Church in our diocese, a gift that will bear fruit for the exciting mission of the new evangelization here in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.”

Those words were spoken by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the Mass of Ordination of 11 men to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate. These 11, who were joined by their wives, family and friends at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on May 21, were the first new group of permanent deacons in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in the last 23 years.

The newly-ordained were Robert Byrne, William Gallagher, Melvin Tardy, Jr., James Fuchs, David Elchert, James Kitchens and James Tighe.

The office of deacon in the Catholic Church may be described as one of service in the sacred liturgy and in the ministries of charity.

The deacon proclaims the Gospel during the Mass and also may be given the task of preaching. In addition, the deacon functions as an ordinary minister of Holy Communion. As clerics, deacons are required to recite the Church’s Liturgy of the Hours. Deacons, like priests and bishops, are ordinary ministers of the sacrament of Baptism, and can serve as the Church’s witness at the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony when done outside of Mass. Deacons also may bring Viaticum to the dying, and preside at funerals outside of Mass, as well as burial rites. They may lead various other liturgical services, such as Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and may bestow certain blessings. Deacons cannot celebrate Mass, anoint the sick, or hear confession and give absolution.

The ministry of charity involves service to the poor and marginalized, and pastoral work within the parish.

Bishop Rhoades, in his homily at the Mass of Ordination, said, “Often, in the early Church, the deacons assisted the poor. … As deacons, you are called to have a special love and concern for the poor and needy. Your ministry of charity is not just an ‘added extra’ in your ministry — it is an essential part of your diaconal identity. … In your service as deacons, may you be ever conscious of your mission to practice charity, to serve the poor.”

Deacons teach in the name of the Church, and always with a close relationship to Sacred Scripture.

Bishop Rhoades said: “After you are ordained, I will present to you the Book of the Gospels and I will say to each one of you the following words: ‘Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you have become. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach’ This will be your mission: to embrace and to share Christ’s Gospel. It will be important for you to reflect on the message of the Gospel frequently and prayerfully. To proclaim the Gospel worthy in the Church’s liturgy, you must first hear that Word in your own heart and bear witness to it in your daily lives, in word and in deed. To preach to God’s people is not only an honor, it is a real commitment to holiness of life. As St. Paul wrote to Timothy in our second reading today, deacons are to ‘hold fast to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.’ You are called to be servants of the liberating truth of the Gospel, leading God’s people to encounter Jesus Christ and to welcome Him into their lives.”

Bishop Rhoades emphasized their new responsibilities in the sacred liturgy by telling the deacons-elect, “Your service of the word and of charity is intimately linked to your service at the altar. … You are called to serve at the liturgy with reverence and devotion. It is an honor and a profound joy to be servants of the liturgy. The Body and Blood of our Lord is entrusted to you to be given to the faithful. Your devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, your love for the most Holy Eucharist, can be a powerful witness to those whom you serve. And, of course, it is the Eucharist that will sustain and nourish you in your diaconal ministry.”

And Bishop Rhoades addressed the wives of the deacons-elect in the homily. “What joy must be in your hearts today,” he said. “You have given your consent to your husbands’ request for ordination. The Church thanks you for your love and support of your husbands’ diaconal vocation. The diaconal vocation of your husbands will be a special grace for your Marriage and family life. You and your husbands are called to grow in mutual and sacrificial love, witnessing to the sanctity of marriage and the family, a witness so very much needed in our culture today. Your example can be a great encouragement to other married couples. May you continue to help one another to grow in holiness!”

Following the Mass of Ordination, a few of the newly ordained deacons spoke with Today’s Catholic.
The Gift of the Diaconate

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHODES

The following is the text of the homily of Bishop Rhodes at the Ordination Mass of new deacons on May 21, 2011, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

Deacon elect James Hilger prays at the Mass of Ordination held on May 21 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, your service of the word and of charity is intimately linked to your service at the altar. The Levites in the Old Testament were priests; the Jewish Church had them as a kind of new evangelization here in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Our candidates have worked hard to prepare themselves theologically, spiritually, and pastorally in order to be ready for this day. They realize, however, that this does not mean that ordination is something that one merits. It is a grace freely bestowed by our Risen Lord. They accept it today with humility, seeing it as a privileged opportunity to share in our Lord’s Paschal Mystery and in the apostolic mission of the Church.

The beautiful ordination liturgy teaches us an important lesson when our candidates, before they are ordained, lie prostrate on the floor of this cathedral. This humble posture of prayer manifests that they are called to be servants of the Church. This beautiful ordination liturgy is backed up by your practical witness of charity. As you know, from the very beginnings of the Church, the practice of charity has been a part of the diaconal ministry. The word “deacon” originates from the Greek word “diakonos,” which means “servant.”

As you know, from the very beginnings of the Church, the practice of charity has been a part of the diaconal ministry. The word “deacon” originates from the Greek word “diakonos,” which means “servant.”

Today is a day of joy for me, our priests and deacons, and for all the faithful of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend as we celebrate the ordination of the first class of permanent deacons in our diocese since 1983. It is a day of joy for the devoted wives of our candidates and for their families. And it is a day of joy for our beloved Bishop Emeritus. Bishop D’Arcy instituted the program for the permanent deacon who today will be ordained as deacons of the Church. I wish to thank Bishop D’Arcy as well as the director of the program, Mary Szymczak, and all who assisted in the formation program for the eleven men for diaconal ministry.

As you have received this ordination, you will be deacons whose lives are deeply rooted in the sacrament of Holy Orders. The call they receive is indeed a treasured gift, a gift to be cherished by you in your Church service, a gift that will bear fruit for the Church in our diocese since 1983. It is a day of joy for the devoted wives of our candidates and for their families. And it is a day of joy for our beloved Bishop Emeritus. Bishop D’Arcy instituted the program for the permanent deacon who today will be ordained as deacons of the Church. I wish to thank Bishop D’Arcy as well as the director of the program, Mary Szymczak, and all who assisted in the formation program for the eleven men for diaconal ministry.

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Priest assignments announced

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has announced the following changes in priestly assignments, effective June 21, 2011:

- Reverend Kevin Bauman, from Parochial Vicar, Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, to Pastor, Our Lady of Hungary Parish, South Bend.
- Reverend Lourdino Fernandes, from Pastor, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Albion, to Pastor, Saint Rose of Lima Parish, Monroeville.
- Reverend Polycarp Fernando, from Pastor, Saint Dominic Parish, Bremen, to Parochial Vicar, Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Reverend Msgr. Bernard Galic, to Vicar Forane for Region E of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, while continuing as Pastor, Saint Aloysius Parish, Yoder, and Director of Office of Vocations.
- Reverend Mark Guthner, JL, from Adjutant Judicial Vicar to Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and from Pastor, Saint Anthony de Padua Parish, South Bend, to Pastor, Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Reverend Charles A. Herman, from Administrator, Holy Family Parish, South Bend, to Pastor, Holy Family Parish, South Bend. Father Herman continues as Pastor of Saint John the Baptist Parish, South Bend.
- Reverend Vincent Joseph, V.C., to Parochial Vicar, Holy Family and Saint John the Baptist Parishes, South Bend.
- Reverend John Klimeczyk, from Parochial Vicar, Saint Hedwig and Saint Patrick Parishes, South Bend, to Pastor, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Albion.
- Reverend Jeffery Largent, from Pastor, Saint Monica Parish, Mishawaka, to Pastor, Little Flower Parish, South Bend.
- Reverend Bob Lengerich, from Parochial Vicar, Saint Pius X Parish, Granger, to Pastor, Saint Dominic Parish, Bremen.
- Reverend Msgr. Bruce J. Piechocki, KL, from Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and from Pastor, Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne, to Pastor, Saint Monica Parish, Mishawaka.
- Reverend David Ruppert, from Pastor, Saint Therese Parish, Fort Wayne, to Pastor, Saint Anthony Parish, South Bend.
- Reverend Lawrence Teteh, CSp, from Pastor, Our Lady of Hungary Parish, South Bend, to Pastor, Saint Therese Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Reverend Lawrence Teteh, CSp, to Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Elkhart.
- Deacon William Gallagher to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Notre Dame.
- Deacon John Hilger to Queen of Angels Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Deacon James Kitchens to Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Deacon Jerome Kohrman to Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur.
- Deacon Stanley Lemieux to Saint Patrick Parish, Ligonier.
- Deacon Melvin Tardy to Saint Augustine Parish, South Bend.
- Deacon James Tighe to Saint Jude Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Deacon Robert Byrne to Saint Joseph Parish, Mishawaka.
- Deacon David Elchert to Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen.
- Deacon James Fitzpatrick to Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Deacon James Fuchs to Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Elkhart.
- Deacon John Hilger to Queen of Angels Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Deacon James Kitchens to Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Deacon Jerome Kohrman to Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur.
- Deacon Stanley Lemieux to Saint Patrick Parish, Ligonier.
- Deacon Melvin Tardy to Saint Augustine Parish, South Bend.
- Deacon James Tighe to Saint Jude Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Public Schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

**Saturday, May 28, 5 p.m. — Mass at St. Joseph Church, LaGrange**
**Sunday, May 29, 11:30 a.m. — Mass at St. Joseph Church, Fort Wayne**
**Tuesday, May 31, 5 p.m. — Vespers and 6 p.m. Mass at Saint Andrew Church, Fort Wayne**
**Wednesday, June 1, 11 a.m. — Visit to IUSB, South Bend**
**Wednesday, June 1, 2 p.m. — Meeting of the Board of Directors of Catholic Charities, Miami Street Office, South Bend**
**Friday, June 3, 10 a.m. — Meeting of Bishop’s Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne.**
**Friday, June 3, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass at Saint John the Baptist Church, New Haven**
**Saturday, June 4, 9 a.m. — Mass for the Apostolate of Fatima, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne**
**Saturday, June 4, 2 p.m. — Confirmation Mass at Saint Patrick Church, Ligonier**

**DECREES OF SUPPRESSION OF SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH AND ERECTION OF SAINT JUDE PARISH, SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, AND SACRED HEART PARISH, LAKEVILLE, INDIANA**

May 19, 2011

According to canon 515.2 of the Code of Canon Law, “The diocesan bishop alone is competent to erect, suppress, or alter parishes...” The Second Vatican Council, in its Decree on the Pastoral Office of Bishops in the Church, Christus Dominus, number 32, teaches that “...in creating or in any way changing the status of a parish, the bishop is to be motivated by his concern for the salvation of souls.”

On November 1, 2008, Sacred Heart Parish, Lakeville, Indiana, and Saint Jude Parish, South Bend, Indiana, were merged by decree in accordance with canon 121 to form Saint Catherine of Siena Parish.

The main reason for the merger was to provide a more equitable distribution of priests, to foster the spiritual well-being of all concerned, and to bring about a more vital parish community with a stronger parish life. It was also foreseen that this would make possible serious consideration for a new church in the merged parishes.

Since the merger, the communities have worked together in joint pastoral activity under a single pastor, assisted by a parochial vicar. Study has shown that the building of a new church is not financially feasible for Saint Catherine of Siena parish. The two communities of the parish favor the continued use of the two present churches.

Given the fact that Sacred Heart of Jesus church and Saint Jude church will continue in use and that it is foreseen that it will remain possible to provide two priests to serve the two communities, the pastor, with the support of the great majority of parishioners, has requested the re-establishment of Saint Jude Parish and Sacred Heart Parish.

The large majority of parishioners prefer the former titles.

Having received this recommendation, on May 11, 2011, I consulted the Presbyteral Council of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in accordance with canon 515.2. The Council expressed its unanimous support for the suppression of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish and the re-erection of Saint Jude and Sacred Heart Parishes.

Therefore, after careful consideration of the advice of the Presbyteral Council as well as the input of the pastor of the parish and the various members of the parish community, I decree the following:

I, the undersigned Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, in virtue of my pastoral office and in conformity with the Code of Canon Law, after consultation with the Presbyteral Council in accord with the norm of law, as well as with various members of the parish community, do hereby decree that Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, South Bend-Lakeville is suppressed and that Sacred Heart Parish, Lakeville, Indiana, and Saint Jude Parish, South Bend, Indiana, are erected as parishes, effective June 1, 2011. These parishes are to return to the boundaries which they held before the merger.

I encourage the continued close collaboration between the communities of the newly erected parishes in the areas of pastoral activity, including the support of Saint Jude School, catechesis, and faith formation. Working together strengthens both parishes in their mission.

I also hereby appoint Father John Delaney, former pastor of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, as pastor of Saint Jude Parish, South Bend, and as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Lakeville, effective June 1, 2011.

+ Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend
Reverend Monsignor Robert Schulte
Chancellor
Catholic Communication Campaign helps the Good News get around

National collection coming up June 5

WASHINGTON — The national date of the collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) is June 5. This year, the campaign focuses on new ways to bring the Gospel to wherever people are. Whether it is through Internet content to strengthen Marriage, podcasts for daily readings, televising the Christmas Mass, or using Facebook for news, discussions and sharing the faith, the Catholic Communication Campaign Collection helps the Good News get around.

“In today’s world, it is essential for the Catholic voice to be where the people are: whether that is sharing on social networking sites, listening to MP3 players, or reading a newspaper,” said Archbishop Dennis Schnurr of Cincinnati, chairman of the U.S. bishops Subcommittee on the Catholic Communications Campaign. “For the faithful or those searching for faith, CCC provides rich content, bringing the Gospel message one page, click, or download at a time.”

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) established the Catholic Communication Campaign collection in 1979 to respond to the establishment of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) for grants to aid Catholic communication efforts in developing nations.

For more information about the Catholic Communication Campaign, visit www.usccb.org/ccc/. For a description of projects funded nationally by the collection go to: www.usccb.org/ccc/projects.shtml.

Catholic hospital takes direct hit from Joplin tornado

JOPLIN, Mo. (CNS) — A Catholic hospital in Joplin took a direct hit from a severe tornado that struck the city May 22. Within two days of the twister, 116 people were confirmed dead, with the number almost certain to rise as rescue teams searched amid the rubble for survivors.

St. John’s Regional Medical Center was in the path of the tornado, variously described as being from a half-mile to a mile-and-a-half wide. A spokeswoman for the hospital told The New York Times May 23 that its 183 patients had been moved to other facilities. It was uncertain whether any perished during the storm. Telephone service to the hospital was cut off after the twister.

“Please keep the people of Joplin in our prayers, especially those whose lives were taken as well as those who lost loved ones,” said a May 23 statement from Bishop James V. Johnston Jr. of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. “We pray especially for the people of St. Mary’s Catholic Church and school who suffered a total loss as well as St. John’s Mercy Hospital which sustained major damage.”

In 1971, a major tornado struck Joplin, resulting in one death and 100 injuries. Joplin, in southwest Missouri near the borders of Kansas and Oklahoma, sits in “Tornado Alley,” so called for the frequency and ferocity of the region’s twisters.

The church, school and rectory buildings of St. Mary Parish were all destroyed by the tornado, but the parish priest, Father Justin Monaghan, was reported unhurt. “The pastor rode it out in the bathtub. He’s fine,” said Leslie Anne Eidson, editor of The Mirror, newspaper of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. “He’s staying with a local parishioner right now.”

At Joplin’s other Catholic church, St. Peter the Apostle, parish administrator Elizabeth Runkle, told Catholic News Service May 23, “St. Peter’s is fine. We’re OK. We didn’t have any damage. Everybody’s fine.” St. Peter has an outreach center that they’re trying to use to speed aid to victims, according to Eidson.

McAuley Catholic High School, which serves the city’s two parishes, escaped damage, Eidson said. It was half wide. A spokeswoman for the school said: “Just got back from closing down the Catholic high school, which was opened as an overflow triage center. Our area of town was untouched, though the neighboring parish (20 blocks away) has probably lost their entire physical plant. ... I know you’ve all seen the footage of St. John’s, our Catholic hospital, which is probably also a total loss!”

“Please keep our community in your prayers. There has been and will be much suffering. Such destruction and violence. ... Thanks, everyone, for your calls, texts and messages of support. Going to sleep now, so we can be at it again in the morning.”

Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri was in Joplin and seeking donations to aid tornado victims, Eidson added. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul also was coordinating its own relief efforts in the Joplin area, according to Eidson, who said the Conway of Hope, which has a large operation in southwestern Missouri, had already established a base in Joplin.

Early estimates put 10 percent to 20 percent of the 50,000-population city’s buildings as being damaged. Utility poles were uprooted by the tornado, making telephone communication difficult at best. Electricity and natural gas service was out in several sections of the city, with downed lines and dislodged pipes hampering search efforts. News accounts and Internet-posted photos and video were rife with flattened structures and twisted slabs of metal that had once been cars.

“The tornado has split Joplin in two,” reported Eidson. Travel in and out of the city was difficult in the wake of the tornado, she added.
Causes and context report released on clergy sexual abuse of minors

BY DAVID GIBSON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Because potential sexual abusers of minors cannot be pinpointed through “identifiable psychological characteristics,” it is “very important” to prevent abuse by limiting the “situational factors” associated with it, according to a long-awaited report on the causes and context of sexual abuse by priests in the United States.

The report, released on May 29, 2011, also had sexual behavior with minors. It encouraged steps to deny abusers “the opportunity to abuse.”


The charter, adopted by the bishops during a historic meeting in Dallas, created a National Review Board and directed the lay investigative body to commission studies of the abuse problem’s “nature and scope” and its “causes and context.”

The John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the City University of New York conducted both studies.

The nature and scope study commenced in 2006. The causes and context study commenced in 2006.

The new report addressed several factors that are “likely to persist, if not to increase.” The report also noted: • Less than 5 percent of priests are accused of abuse. • Full or part-time income opportunity. • Home based business. • Have purpose. • Faith and family first.

Priests who abused minors were more likely to abuse minors than “heterogeneous population.” The report said, “No other institution has undergone the degree of changes and modifications that have occurred in the institution of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States since the mid-1960s.”

The report also noted that priests who abused minors were more likely to abuse minors than “heterosexual priests.” Sexual “identity” should be differentiated from “behavior.” A possible reason so many male minors were abused is that priests had greater access to them.

Fewer priests were presubpense children.

Seventy percent of priests referred for abusing a minor “had also had sexual behavior with adults,” the study found. The majority of priest-abusers did not “specialize” in abusing “particular types of victims.”

The new study’s goal was to understand what factors “led to a sexual abuse ‘crisis’ in the Catholic Church” and “make recommendations to Catholic leadership” for reducing abuse, the John Jay College researchers explained.

They said their report also “provides a framework” for understanding “sexual victimization of children in any institution” and how organizations respond.

No other institution has undertaken a public study of sexual abuse like this one, they said.

Priests who abused minors were not carbon copies of one another. The report said they constituted a “heterogeneous population.” The “majority” appear to have had certain vulnerabilities, such as “emotional congruence to adolescents” or difficulty interfacing with adults.

Some priest-abusers were abused as youths. “Having been sexually abused by an adult while a minor increased the risk that priests would later abuse a child,” the report said.

The stress priests may experience at transitional moments — moving from seminary to parish life; transferring to new parishes; becoming pastors — was cited as a factor that can increase “vulnerability to abuse.”

The report indicated that “situational stressors” do not cause abuse, but may serve “as triggers.” High alcohol consumption during stressful times can lower inhibitions, it noted.

“The peak of the crisis has passed,” the report observed. It said the Church “responded,” and abuse cases decreased substantially.

A “system of change” has begun in the Church, according to the report. However, it said, “organizational changes take years, and often decades, to fully implement.”

The report called sexual abuse of minors “a long-term societal problem,” one “likewise to persist, particularly in organizations that nurture and mentor adolescents.” It said diocesan leaders “must continue to deal with abuse allegations appropriately.”

Priest-abusers represented only a small percentage of all priests. The researchers judged it “neither possible nor desirable to implement extensive restrictions on the mentoring and nurturing relationships between minor and priests, given that most priests have not sexually abused minors and are not likely to do so.”

Because so many abuse cases first were reported to authorities in the early 2000s, some people suspect the abuse remains “at peak levels,” the report said. The reality is otherwise.

Sexual abuse of minors by priests increased steadily from the mid-1960s through the late 1970s, then declined in the 1980s and continued to remain low,” the report showed. Most abuse incidents occurred decades ago.

And “the majority of abusers (70 percent) were ordained prior to the 1970s,” the study noted: 44 percent of those accused entered the priesthood before 1990. Social factors influenced the increase of abuse incidents during the 1960s and 1970s, the report said.

It found this increase consistent with the “rise of other types of ‘deviant’ behavior, such as drug use and crime,” and changes in social behavior such as the “increase in premarital sexual behavior and diversity.”

Those generations of priest-abusers also lacked “careful preparation for a celibate life,” the report noted. Moreover, they failed to recognize the harm done to victims.

Awareness of the harm of sexual abuse to minors grew in society and the church during the 20th century’s last decades. An increasing reluctance to time to reinstatement priests in parishes after a first accusation may reflect the growth of this awareness, the report suggested.

In the 1990s, it said, “the failure of some diocesan leaders to take responsibility for the harm of the abuse by priests was egregious in some cases.”

The report accented the critical role of what today is called “human formation” in seminaries. It is described as a gradually intensifying focus on human formation concerns coincided with a decline of abuse cases.

Human formation addresses matters such as the future priest’s relationships and friendships, his self-knowledge, integrity and celibate chastity, the report recommended that human formation continue after ordination.

Can seminaries screen-out priesthood candidates who will abuse minors? While encouraging further research, the report said “personality tests did not show statistically significant differences on major clinical scales” between priest-abusers and others without abuse allegations.

Nonetheless, it said screening tools remain “critically important” for identifying “other psychological problems not necessarily related” to abuse of minors.

Removing opportunities to abuse minors, making abuse more difficult and increasing its risks are among prevention steps the report recommended. Excuses priest-abusers might use are “recognized for what they are,” it advised.

The report affirmed the safe environment programs implemented throughout the Church in the U.S. These programs educate potential victims, abusers, parents and others, increasing the likelihood that abusers will be identified and “have more to lose.”

Priests need “outlets to form social friendships and suitable bonds with age-appropriate persons,” the report said. It encouraged attention to priests’ health and well-being, including factors such as stress.

It recommended that dioceses periodically evaluate priests’ performance. Evaluation is “an established element of most complex organizations,” the report said.

The Church has taken many steps “to reduce opportunities for abuse,” the report said. It recommended that these efforts “be maintained and continually evaluated for efficacy.”

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English, Welsh bishops reintroduce meatless Fridays

LONDON (CNS) — Catholics in England and Wales will be obliged to abstain from meat every Friday under new rule brought by the bishops. The “act of common witness” will take effect Sept. 16, the first anniversary of Pope Benedict XVI’s visit to Britain. The rule, announced at a news conference in London in mid-May, reverses a relaxation of the Friday penance regulations introduced in England and Wales in 1984. This allowed Catholics to choose their own form of Friday penance — such as offering additional prayers, attending Mass or abstaining from alcohol. But critics have said that the end of a tradition in which Catholics ate fish or eggs instead of meat on Fridays led to a loss of common identity, with many Catholics today abstaining from meat only on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The return to an obligation to abstain from meat was a key resolution of the bishops’ May plenary meeting held in Leeds, England, May 9-16. “Every Friday is set aside by the Church as a special day of penance, for it is the day of the death of Our Lord,” said the bishops’ resolution. “The law of the Church requires Catholics to abstain from meat on Fridays, or some other form of food, or to observe some other form of penance laid down by the bishops’ conference,” the statement said.

Religious freedom seen as top issue facing US Church in years ahead

TOWSON, Md. (CNS) — John Garvey is convinced that religious freedom will be the most important issue facing the Catholic Church in the United States over the next half century. “This is so because our culture is evolving in ways that are indifferent and sometimes even hostile to religion,” said Garvey, president of The Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. The sexual abuse crisis has particularly wounded the Catholic Church, he said, contributing to a loss of moral authority. In the past decade, he said, legal restrictions aimed at the Church garnered a sympathetic hearing. The Church now finds itself in the same position as religious minorities, he said. “In fact, our position is worse,” Garvey said, “because when a state like the Commonwealth of Massachusetts enacts laws that are aimed at the Church, it may not seem discriminatory to people because a majority of the legislators who passed the laws were baptized as Catholics.” Religious people have traditionally sought shelter in the Constitution, he explained, “and that’s an area where the shade has been diminishing in the last decade.”

Garvey spoke May 25 at an interfaith lecture on religious liberty, hosted by Archbishop Edwin F. O’Brien of Baltimore, at Calvert Hall College High School in Towson. The gathering attracted an estimated 150 people. Garvey focused much of his talk on the 1990 Supreme Court ruling, Employment Division v. Smith. The ruling held that the First Amendment protects religious actors against discrimination, Garvey said, but not against laws that are neutral and generally applicable.

Pope’s 2012 World Peace Day theme focuses on young people

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In building a world of peace and justice, the Catholic Church must listen to the ideas and hopes of young people and offer them educational opportunities that will strengthen their ability to work for the common good, the Vatican said. As part of the Church’s efforts, Pope Benedict XVI has chosen “Educating young people in justice and peace” to be the theme for the Church’s 2012 celebration of World Peace Day. World Peace Day is Jan. 1 each year. A papal message on the theme is sent in December to heads of state around the world. Announcing the theme May 19, the Vatican said the pope wanted to highlight “an urgent need in the world today: to listen and to enhance the important role of new generations in the realization of the common good, and in the affirmation of a just and peaceful social order where fundamental human rights can be fully expressed and realized.” The duty to prepare future generations also includes a government obligation to ensure that young people have appropriate opportunities for personal growth, particularly through education and employment, the Vatican statement said.

US government joins with private sector to help end human trafficking

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While prevention, protection and prosecution have been the key strategies in the fight against human trafficking and modern-day slavery, the U.S. State Department is adding a new approach: expanded partnership. Human trafficking and forced labor create an insecure world where “organized crime can operate with impunity,” said Miguel H. Diaz, the U.S. ambassador to the Vatican. The only way to rectify such global human rights violations is for governments to enlist the help of religious leaders, businesses, consumers and other private entities, he said. The ambassador spoke at a conference May 18 on building public-private partnerships in the battle against modern day slavery. The gathering was sponsored by the embassy and St. Thomas University in Miami. The conference, held in a Renaissance palace housing several Vatican tribunals, brought together Jewish and Christian leaders, faith-based humanitarian organizations, academics, lawmakers, and government and corporate representatives. Laws against trafficking and slavery are on the books, said Luis CdeBaca of the U.S. State Department’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. But for those laws to work, governments and the private sector have to come together to identify and protect victims and to bring perpetrators to justice, he said.

Catholics in China need prayers, pope says at weekly audience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The persecuted Catholic Church in China needs and deserves the prayers of Catholics throughout the world, Pope Benedict XVI said. “There, as elsewhere, Christ is living his passion” because of government restrictions and pressures on the Church, the pope said May 18 at the end of his weekly general audience. He asked Catholics everywhere to observe May 24, the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, as a day of prayer for Catholics in mainland China. Pope Benedict established the annual day of prayer in 2002 when he wrote a letter to Catholics in China outlining ways to promote greater unity between those exercising their faith clandestinely and those participating in communities overseen by the government-backed Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association. At his general audience, the pope emphasized the need for unity between the Church in China and Rome. “Chinese Catholics, as they have said many times, want unity with the universal Church, with the supreme pastor, with the successor of Peter,” he said. China’s communist government has insisted on controlling the country’s Catholic community, defining ties with the Vatican as interference in its internal affairs. “By our prayers we can obtain for the Church in China that it remain one, holy and Catholic, faithful and steadfast in doctrine and in ecclesiastical discipline,” the pope said.

Pope Benedict names bishop of Steubenville to head Diocese of Joliet

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Bishop R. Daniel Conlon of Steubenville, Ohio, to head the Diocese of Joliet, Ill. The appointment was announced in Washington May 17 by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States. He succeeds Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, who was Joliet’s bishop for four years, until he was named to head the Seattle Archdiocese last September. Bishop Conlon, 62, has been the head of the Steubenville Diocese since 2002. At the national level, he is chairman-elect of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People. He also has served on their Administrative Committee and the Subcommittee on Marriage and Family. He will be installed as head of the Joliet Diocese July 14 at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus in Joliet. “I consider it a great privilege to be named as bishop of the Diocese of Joliet with its rich history and a bright future in this vibrant and growing Church.”

In Libya, religious continue to offer care, service to migrants

ROME (CNS) — Despite the worsening crisis in Libya, religious women and men continue to offer pastoral care and desperately needed services to the country’s many migrants. “The reality of the migrants who have stayed behind have lost their jobs and have nowhere else to go, which leaves them searching for food, clothing and most of all, rent money, said a nun working just outside of Tripoli. Sister Shirley of the Franciscan Missionaries of the Cross said that the nuns’ mission was to “look toward to a bright future in this vibrant and growing Church.”
AFTERNOONS OF REFLECTION OFFERED THROUGH OFFICE OF WORSHIP

Two Afternoons of Reflection retreats, coordinated by the diocesan Office of Worship, will be held Sunday, June 19, from 1:30-4 p.m. at the following locations: Queen of Angels Church, Fort Wayne; and Holy Family Church, South Bend.

These afternoons fulfill the annual diocesan retreat requirement for extraordinary ministers and lectors, although anybody is welcome to attend. However, pre-registration is necessary so that materials can be prepared. The registration form in both PDF and Publisher formats is accessible online at the website, www.diocesetwsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Afternoons-2011.pdf.

In addition, registration information (name, parish, city, and phone/e-mail) can be submitted via e-mail to kfitzpatrick@diocese-twsb.org.

The registration deadline is Wednesday, June 15.

Afternoons of Reflection are provided to supplement parish retreats for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion and lectors. Many parishes provide their own parish retreats. All extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion and lectors must spend some time once a year in a retreat experience. This retreat experience does not have to be a diocesan retreat. It can be a personal retreat, a parish retreat or a diocesan Afternoon of Reflection. The pastor, not the Office of Worship, determines whether each minister has fulfilled this requirement. Other lay ministers and members of the parish are welcome to attend the Afternoons of Reflection.

ANDORFER RECEIVES NCEA DISTINGUISHED ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST AWARD

NEW HAVEN — Donald J. Andorfer, a 1952 graduate of St. John the Baptist School, New Haven, was awarded the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) Distinguished St. John the Baptist Award for 2011. Andorfer attended New Haven High School upon graduation from St. John’s and received both a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree from Ball State University. He has also received an honorary doctorate from Tiffin University.

Andorfer has also been recognized as a Sagamore of the Wabash by Governor Frank O’Bannon, received the Silver Musket Award for Service to Robert Morris University, and been named Citizen of the Year in 2003 by the Journal Gazette. The┋er Commons Building on Indiana Tech Campus was named in his honor at retirement after 28 years of service. He was the seventh president of Indiana Tech in 1985 and served until his retirement in 2003.

Andorfer and his wife are members of St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Yoder. They have been married for 50 years and live on a farm in southern Allen County that has been in their family for four generations.

Andorfer wrote: “My personal achievements attributable to St. John’s Catholic School: ... A happy home, a loving wife, three children, and two grandchildren. ... A full realization that on my personal journey through life, I have done nothing alone. My trust in God as a partner has helped me through all of life’s struggles. ... A deep faith in the Catholic Church. ... A respect for others’ beliefs.”

He said of his Catholic education experience: “When I started school at St. John’s, the school was on the corner of Powers and Rufus streets. It had two rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs. We had two grades in each room. All of the instruction was given by the Sisters of St. Agnes. Discipline was strict and we had Mass every morning. Catechism was learned by reciting answers by memory. Today, I can still recite some of those answers, such as ‘Why did God make me?’ I had the opportunity to be an altar boy and say those prayers in Latin. Probably the thing I learned most was to have faith in God, to not despair and to use the talents God gave me to help others. I never really understood all the nuns taught me, but they clearly made me believe that being a Catholic was very important and, it was equally important to lead my life as a good person.”

Andorfer received his award at Mass on May 15. A reception was held in his honor following the Mass.

STUDENT PENNIES FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN SUPPORTS ACRTL

Students from Our Lady of Good Hope, in Fort Wayne, worked for 46,332 pennies during their Pennies For Life Campaign. The $463.32 collected was presented to the Allen County Right to Life Office. Pictured are, from left, Jason Kohrman, Harley Babbitt and Logan Zuber. Back row, from left, are Madeline Barry and Cecelia Sordelet with the check. The students filled baby bottles, donated by the St. Charles Pro Life Committee.
Provided a unique graduation gift for college-bound students

SOUTH BEND — College Connection for Catholics (CCC), a program of the USA Council of Serra International and NET Ministries, unites college students with the Catholic faith on campuses. CCC is designed to connect incoming Catholic college freshmen with the Catholic presence on or near their campus, with the goal of helping the students stay active in their faith.

Serra International was formed in 1936 as a lay Catholic organization to support the vocations to the priesthood and community life (sisters and brothers) through activities such as this and prayer.

The program, which launched a new website in 2010, has become a premier national outreach program for the USA Council of Serra International and NET Ministries. It is a major step in helping promote Catholic campus ministries on college campuses. The College Connection for Catholics website features over 1,100 colleges across the nation; plans include increasing this number to 1,500 this year.

CCC has generated positive responses from students, campus ministers and diocesan officials about its goal to reach this critical age group that is most likely to lose their faith.

Several hundred members of Serra Clubs have spent the past six years developing the CCC program. They have gathered data which confirms that only 15 percent of incoming Catholic freshmen are practicing their faith by the time they graduate. More than 1.2 million Catholic students enter college life each year. Ninety percent of them attend a secular campus where it is difficult for Catholic ministries to reach them without knowing who they are.

Members of Serra Clubs coordinate with their local diocese, Catholic high schools and parishes to obtain the names of graduating seniors and provide them with information about the Catholic presence at their college of choice. The clubs also provide Catholic campus ministry officials with these students’ names and information, so they can invite them to Catholic events and liturgies.

The Serra Club of South Bend, composed of Catholic male and female students, works with the Serra Club of Saint Joseph and Marian high schools to help them reach seniors. The club is using its resources to further the efforts of CCC to the local youth.

Saint Joseph and Marian high schools have been enlisted to assist in obtaining the needed information on graduating seniors. This information will be forwarded to the Catholic Ministries program at the student’s college of choice. This will make it possible for the campus’s Catholic ministry group to contact the students at the beginning of their freshman year to invite them to participate in the programs and liturgical activities of the ministries.

According to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., if campus ministries reached just 10 percent more of the nearly 5 million Catholic college students across the United States and kept them active in their faith, it would add approximately 500,000 practicing Catholics to dioceses across the country.

“I can’t think of a better way to make an impact on the Church and the world than by reaching people who are at the very beginning of their careers and connecting them deeply to their Catholic faith,” said Father David Konderla, director and pastor of St. Mary’s Catholic Center at Texas A&M.

Father James J. Bacik, who ministers to students at the University of Toledo, and author of “Empowered by the Spirit,” a campus ministry document for the U.S. bishops in 2006, said getting the names of Catholic students coming to the university from Serra Clubs is “like gold in our pockets. It is a great help in our ministry. These students are the future leaders of society and of our Church.”

Robert McCarty, executive director of the National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministries, said the College Connection program responds to the U.S. bishops’ goals for Catholic youth ministry: “To call young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ,” and to “draw young people to responsible participation in the life, work and mission of the faith community.”

For more information, the Serra Club of South Bend may be reached by contacting either: Dr. Frank C. Toepp, chairman, South Bend CCC at (574) 272-1897 or e-mail at franktoepp@comcast.net; or Stephen Elek, Jr., communications, South Bend CCC, at (574) 291-0550 or e-mail at selekjr2@comcast.net.

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The Fort Wayne Chapter of the Serra Club recognizes a senior male and female in Fort Wayne from each of the two Catholic High Schools. These students excelled in Christian leadership and living their faith through Peer Ministry, marching and praying at the abortion clinic and other activities. The Fort Wayne Serra Club held their annual Christian Leadership Award May 6 at St. Joseph Hospital.

Bishop Dwenger High School recipients, shown with Principal Jason Schiffli, left, were McKenzie Guiver, who will attend Xavier University and Adam Beauchat, who will attend Ball State University.

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Bishop Dwenger High School recipients, shown with Principal Jason Schiffli, left, were McKenzie Guiver, who will attend Xavier University and Adam Beauchat, who will attend Ball State University.
May 29, 2011

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

PROVIDENCE FOUNDRESS HONORED

Bishop John M. D’Arcy, bishop-emeritus, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, conducted a brief dedicatory ceremony at the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne on Saturday, May 21. Recognizing St. Mother Theodore Guérin as the foundress of The Sisters of Providence in America and as the foundress of Catholic education in Fort Wayne, the bishop blessed a statue and, in the Guérin Mausoleum, a plaque honoring Our Lady of Providence. The statue was donated in memory of Richard and Marcella Ankenbruck and the chapel plaque in memory of Larry A. Amstutz, Jr.

Brother Richard Gilman receives the Age of Excellence Education Award from Real Services

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross Brother Richard Gilman, president-emeritus of Holy Cross College was honored at the Real Services Age of Excellence Luncheon with the Education Award for his work in developing the Center for Intergenerational Learning and the Gerontology programs at Holy Cross College in cooperation with Holy Cross Village. The Center for Intergenerational Learning is a unique program in higher education which links the learning needs of college students with the vast life experience and wisdom of the retired adults in the retirement community of Holy Cross Village.

The center offers gerontology seminars, conferences, classes, continuing education opportunities, for students, service and health professionals, as well as, an academic minor in gerontology. Gerontology education increases a graduate’s competitiveness for many career positions by demonstrating knowledge, experience and ease in working with society’s dominant population — the older adult. Thanks to Brother Gilman’s leadership, Holy Cross students have also logged hundreds of hours in compassionate service to the older adults living in Holy Cross Village.

Academy Award-winning actress, Patty Duke presented the awards and delivered the keynote speech about her own challenges in caring for an elder parent. WNDU anchor (and Holy Cross College alumnus) Terry McFadden was the master of ceremonies.

Marian to host School Choice informational meetings

MISHAWAKA — The state of Indiana’s new School Choice Scholarship legislation provides vouchers or tuition for students who are currently enrolled in public schools and whose family’s annual income falls within certain limits similar to those used for the Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility. Marian High School informational meetings for parents on School Choice Scholarships will be held Thursday, June 2, or Wednesday, June 15, or Tuesday, June 28, from 7-8 p.m. in the Marian library. The school is located at 1311 S. Logan St. in Mishawaka. Entrance is at the main doors on the east side of the building.

For additional information, phone (574) 259-5257 or visit the website, www.marianhs.org. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the high school with a strong Catholic identity and the highest End of Course Assessment (ECA) scores in the area: 90.2 percent of students passed English/Language Arts ECA and 88.1 percent of students passed Math ECA.

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TWO FAITHFUL JOIN RANKS OF SECULAR FRANCISCANS

Ruth Carrillo, left, and Melisa Schlunt, right, are shown following their profession into the Secular Franciscans, which took place on Saturday, May 14, at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka.

CHILDREN PRESENT STOLE TO DEACON KITCHENS

Deacon-elect Jim Kitchens holds the “Children Around the World” deacon’s stole, a gift from St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School in honor of his ordination into the Order of the Diaconate on May 21. The newly ordained deacon participated in a Mass of Thanksgiving at the 11:30 a.m. Mass on May 22 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

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Deacon-Elect Jerry Kohrman promises obedience and respect to Bishop Kevin Rhoades and his successors.

Mary Szymczak, the director of the program, and her husband David of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, Hunt, assistant director of the program, present the gifts to Bishop Rhoades during the Mass.

Above, the deacon-candidates, Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of St. Anthony Parish, South Bend, and their readiness is affirmed. The elect then lie prostrate on the sanctuary floor as the Litany of Saints is sung at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.
ORDINATION TO THE SACRED ORDER OF THE DIACONATE

Deacon Robert Byrne is vested with the diaconal stole by Father Terry Fisher, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka.

Bishop Rhoades hands Deacon Mel Tardy the Book of the Gospels at the Mass of Ordination to the Diaconate on May 21 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Deacon Kevin Ranaghan looks on from right.

Deacon Robert Byrne is vested with the diaconal stole by Father Terry Fisher, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka.

Deacon Kevin Ranaghan looks on from right.

Bishop Rhoades hands Deacon Mel Tardy the Book of the Gospels at the Mass of Ordination to the Diaconate on May 21 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Mary Szymczak, the director of the diaconate program, and her husband David and Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration Fidelis Hunt, assistant director of the diaconate program, present the gifts to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during the Mass.

The diaconate candidates are formally presented by Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of St. Anthony Parish, South Bend, and their readiness is affirmed. The elect then lie prostrate on the sanctuary floor as the Litany of Saints is sung at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

Deacon Jim Tighe gives Holy Communion to his wife Pat at the Mass of Ordination.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades lays hands on Deacon-elect James Fuchs. Deacon Kevin Ranaghan looks on from right.
Father Guertin marks 50 years of priesthood

SOUTH BEND — Fifty years after Donald Guertin abandoned his engineering studies for the priesthood, he’s still serving the Lord with his many talents.

Holy Cross Father Guertin was born in Detroit, Mich., on Oct. 27, 1928, to a family that also included two more boys, and a girl. He graduated from St. Francis Xavier High School in Ecorse, Mich., in 1946, and studied at Chaffey College in Alta Loma, Calif., before joining the U.S. Navy and submitting to four years of flight training.

After being discharged from the Navy, Father Guertin enrolled at the University of Notre Dame with the intention of studying engineering. Now, he said, he sees that God had other plans for him.

“I took one of those lectures we were required to attend, and, well, I took a step back and took a wider view of things,” he said of his first year.

He altered his original plans, enrolled in Old College and set out on the road to become the only priest in his family. Father Guertin made his first vows after attending Sacred Heart novitiate in Minnesota, then returned to Notre Dame and graduated in 1957. Four more years at Holy Cross College in Washington, D.C., followed, and he was ordained a priest at the Sacred Heart Basilica on June 7, 1961.

Twice the Lord put Father Guertin in the role of pastor at Little Flower Parish, South Bend — once from 1962-66 and again from 1997-2001. He also served as an assistant at Christ the King Parish, and as one of several pastors of St. Joseph’s Parish in Mishawaka from 1968-1974.

At St. Joseph’s, he enjoyed being a part of important transitions that were happening. The parish priests and members of the parish introduced the changes coming from the Second Vatican Council, such as the liturgical changes and shared parish leadership, by initiating a parish council, parish board of education and social justice efforts,” he remembered.

“It was a plan proposed by parishioner Robert Skudlarek that involved religious education for all ages and for the parish elementary school to serve the integration of the neighborhood by opening the parish school to neighborhood children who were unable to afford the full tuition.”

But Father Guertin began to feel a call to help in a more specific way. In 1974 he began to study counseling psychology and received a master’s degree, which led to his appointment to the Family and Children’s Center in 1976.

“I wanted to develop some additional abilities to serve, and I thought psychology would be helpful,” Father Guertin explained.

For the last five years, Father Guertin, 82, has worked part time with the Spiritual Care Department at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center as a priest visitor to the sick. He is also on a rotation with two other priests, Father Tom McNally and Father David Link, to celebrate a weekend Mass at the prison in Michigan City.

Now a resident of Our Lady of Fatima House in South Bend, he enjoys his semi-retirement by running around St. Mary’s Lake — weather permitting. He also plays tennis, a sport he enjoys so much that he wishes he’d never taken time off, he said.

He added that he is grateful for his blessings, which have come at every assignment and in every location.
Father Philip Schneider celebrates 50 years as Conventual Franciscan

By Kay Cozad

ANGOLA — Conventual Franciscan Father Philip Schneider has always held a special place in his heart for the sacrifice of the Mass, even as a young child. That love of the Eucharist led him to his beloved vocation.

Ordained into the priesthood of the Order of Friars Minor Conventual by Archbishop Leo Dzenz in St. Paul Cathedral in Minnesota on Feb. 19, 1960, Father Schneider will joyfully celebrate his 50th jubilee this summer.

Born in March of 1934, this Lansing, Mich., native was the third of 12 children born to Anthony and Helen Schneider. Educated in the Catholic Church from an early age, Father Schneider says, “I really loved the Mass. I used to have Mass as a kid and invite all my brothers and sisters to attend.” His desire to celebrate Mass and the influence the parish priests, who were Conventual Franciscans, led him to consider the priesthood.

So at the tender age of 14, the young Schneider moved to southern Indiana to attend Conventual Franciscan High School, then entered the novitiate in Angola for a year. During his discernment he found that the Franciscan “way of living” appealed to him. “It felt comfortable — a good way to follow Christ. It’s a vocation. Living the Franciscan life comes with time to fully understand it,” he says. He was grateful for the support of his family and quips, “They told me later that they said a prayer every day so that I would stay.”

Following his novitiate year, Father Schneider studied philosophy at the seminary in Carey, Ohio, continuing his education in Minnesota’s Assumption Seminary where he earned his undergraduate degree. He subsequently earned a master’s degree in science from the University of Notre Dame.

Following his ordination into the priesthood, Father Schneider, who humbly admits his expertise with numbers, was first assigned to teach math at the University of Louisville. Following a two-year term there he was reassigned to his first parish, St. Benedict, in Terre Haute. Three years later he found himself in an Italian parish in Chicago Heights and for the next decade he devoted himself to the three generations of Italians at San Rocco Parish, even learning the language to enhance his ministry there.

In 1991, Father Schneider was assigned as administrator of St. Paul Chapel on Clear Lake near Angola where for the past 20 years he has celebrated Mass for and ministered year round to the “lake people.” During many of “Seems impossible that I am able to celebrate Mass and administer the sacraments.”

“Helping people in stressful times is very rewarding,” says Father Schneider.

During his free time Father Schneider likes to work with wood. “I made a wooden tabernacle for the chapel of oak,” he says, adding that many of the places he has served have a masterpiece to mark his time there. He also enjoys riding his bicycle along the bike paths in northern Indiana.

Father Schneider and his church community at St. Paul Chapel on Clear Lake plan to celebrate his 50 years as shepherd at the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend’s annual celebration Mass on June 29 at the Cathedral in Fort Wayne.

It’s a vocation. It’s a sacrifice. In his ministry and the people he serves, Father Schneider has come to experience the deep faith of some of the people. He also enjoys riding his bicycle along the bike paths in northern Indiana.

SOUTH BEND — “I’ve already accomplished what God has expected of me. What I do now is persevere and keep working,” said Congregation of the Holy Spirit Father Lawrence Teteh, Ph.D., pastor of Our Lady of Hungary Parish in South Bend about what comes next in his journey through the priesthood.

Father Teteh is celebrating 40 years of being in the priesthood this year.

Father Teteh was born in 1944 in Ahiana Imo State Nigeria. Being the fifth of 11 children (six boys and five girls), he comes from a very strong Catholic family. His father was a station school teacher and catechist in Catholic missions for 48 years before he retired. The tradition of the family was a nightly family rosary and Sunday Masses were never missed.

“My desire to go to the minor seminary was fulfilled after the rect (an Irish Holy Ghost Father) of the Juniorate (the Holy Ghost Fathers’ junior seminary) came with a teenage student and preached about the vocations to the missionary priesthood in the Holy Ghost Congregation.”

Father Schneider about his inspiration to begin his journey into the priesthood at the age of 14.

He spent the next 13 years in the junior and senior seminary formation program which included secondary school studies, novitiate, philosophy and theology studies and being ordained as a missionary priest in the Holy Ghost Congregation (Spiritans) on Aug. 22, 1971.

My first two years as a priest were spent in sole pastoral ministry in three different parishes. But from 1973 until I came over to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in 2001, I have been in and out of educational institutions either as rect, vice principal, graduate student, lecturer and chaplain (of campus ministry),” noted Father Teteh, who holds academic degrees in philosophy, theology and education, which were earned in several places including Nigeria, Belgium and the United States.

Father Teteh came to Our Lady of Hungary in 2001 first as an associate pastor and then as administrator there following the death of the pastor Father Ted Kwak in January 2004. He was appointed the pastor at Our Lady in July of 2004.

“Thus by nature and nurture hailing from a family of mostly teachers, I have been a professional teacher most of my life,” notes Father Teteh. He finds the priesthood a joyful profession, humble and challenging and something that has brought him to different cultures and countries and groups of people: Whether in the school classroom or pastoral setting. His joy is the recognition of being used by God and the Church in the furtherance of the Good News.

Father Teteh loves reading, soccer and tennis, and listening to classical music. He enjoys his work and plans to continue serving the Lord for as long as he is needed.

Promotion ends June 1, 2011.
Bob Mackin retires as 65-year member, founder, of Knights’ bowling league

BY RICK ALEXANDER

SOUTH BEND — Knight Bob Mackin started the Knights of Columbus (KofC) Bowling League with fellow Knight Erv Golabowski in South Bend in 1946. The two were members of the Santa Maria Council 553.

Although the league has had numerous homes, it was formed and bowled at the Indiana Club, which was the original home of Santa Maria Council 553. There were four bowling lanes in the basement, so the council started with four teams.

Mackin, the sole survivor of those who originated the league, has bowled in the KofC Bowling League for 65 continuous years and is the only originator of the league still living. He served the league faithfully all of these years. At 86, Mackin is the oldest person to bowl in the KofC League.

Mackin retired from the bowling league at the end of the 2011 season. His final KofC league bowling night was April 27. Over his bowling span, Mackin’s highest game was a 268. His highest series was a 703.

Mackin counts among his achievements serving as the league’s secretary treasurer for 50 years. But his dedication to bowling did not end there. Mackin served as president of the Knights of Columbus International Bowling Association for several years. In addition, he served on its board of directors for nine years. He is also a past Grand Knight of the Santa Maria Council.

Mackin, who is a member of the South Bend-Mishawaka Bowling Hall of Fame and the Knights of Columbus International Bowling Association Hall of Fame, was instrumental in bringing the International Bowling Tournament to South Bend on five occasions, the most recent in 2008.

On April 13, the Knights’ bowling league honored Mackin before league bowling began. He was presented a clock/plaque, and card signed by each bowler in the league.
St. Charles ‘Bridezillas’ soccer team crowned CYO champ

**BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN**

FORT WAYNE — The St. Charles Cardinals were crowned the 2011 Catholic Youth League (CYO) soccer champs capping off a phenomenal run at Foster Park on Friday, May 13.

The tournament ended in a special way with extra special motivation pushing the Cardinals the entire season. This particular group of eighth-grade girls had not won a CYO title before — soccer, basketball, or volleyball or soccer during their careers. Knowing this was their last chance, Coach Pat Welch explained, “At our first practice in March, the girls were dubbed ‘Bridezillas’ because they had been runner-up in the past two tournaments and were tired of feeling that way. Always the bridesmaid and never the bride, they set out not to be ‘left at the altar’ again.”

Although the Bridezillas opened the season with a loss, they recommitted themselves to winning by putting more effort into their practices and focusing on the task at hand. Welch added, “It was a wake-up call that things were not going to be handed to them and they would have to work for what they got this season.”

Coaching together the past nine years, Welch and Mike Lewis knew what made their Cardinals tick. Lewis constantly reminded the girls, “Hard work beats talent when talent does not work hard.”

The girls embraced the motto, knowing that they were talented, but recalling how hungerier teams had beaten them in prior years. Also, a key motivator for the girls all season was the late Vivian Welch. Serving as assistant coach the past two seasons, Welch passed away after fighting brain cancer in August 2010. When the other coaches could not be there on time or had a conflict, she would start practices and teach defenders how to play their position — one that she played in her day of competition. When the girls became too passive at practice, they loved to hear her encourage them by saying, “Put down your purses and play!”

Dearly missed at home, in the classroom — where she substitute taught for the past eight years — and cheering on the sidelines, the Cardinals felt her presence during this special season.

Welch explained, “The girls wanted to win this for Viv and they verbalized that out loud.”

St. Charles listed just 14 on their roster this season, which included three brand new players to the sport. Therefore, it was crucial that players play where the team needed them the most. Welch detailed, “Flexibility to play multiple positions was our key mindset as we entered the tournament.”

After a wet, soggy spring and many cancellations, the game plan was executed flawlessly as St. Charles shone through the tournament with three shutouts on the road to victory.

Claire Pittenger scored the game winner in the opening contest against St. Vincent 7 when the Cards won, 1-0, in overtime. In the semifinals, St. Charles faced the two-time defending champs. St. John, Fort Wayne-St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, and got by them 1-0 in another shootout on a beautiful give and go from Pittenger to Haley Haines.

With the title on the line, the Cardinals faced a talented group from St. Vincent 8 in the final matchup and once again did not allow a goal. Winning 1-0, The Cardinal defense was tenacious, allowing just two shots, which were handled by Caroline McGraw, who was moved to goalie for the final game. This freed up Maria Welch, to originate the winning goal by Jordan Stevens who finished a cross by Pittenger.

A pleased Welch summarized, “We had very strong midfield play, which was the key to the defense excelling and the emergence of the speedy Cat Meinholz as a defensive midfielder during the tourney and Lucie Ly as the defensive specialist.”

In junior varsity action, the combined team from St. John, Fort Wayne-St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, claimed the title last year after being tied by St. Vincent 6 by a score of 1-0. On the road to victory, the winners got by St. Vincent 5 and then St. Charles 6 to advance to the championship game. They finished with an impressive 8-1 record.

The Eagles team consisted of six seventh graders and one sixth grader from St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, and 15 fifth graders from St. John, Fort Wayne.

The CYO girls’ soccer champions “jump for joy” after winning the tournament on May 13. The team roster includes Jordan Stevens, Lucie Ly, Gabrielle Wolf, Caroline McGraw, Cat Meinholz, Abby McGraw, Jenny Roach, Fort Shenkel, Maria Welch, Claire Pittenger, Amelie Tippmann, Cassie Carrillo, Maggie Blackwell and Haley Haines. The St. Charles team is coached by Pat Welch and Mike Lewis.

CYO soccer Panthers lose to St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth

**BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN**

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent lost a tough first round match in Catholic Youth League (CYO) boys’ soccer tournament action on Monday, May 9. The Panthers were defeated by St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth and finished their regular season with a 3-1-1 record. “We had a group of kids that respected one another and had fun, but unfortunately we played one of the toughest teams after the random tourney draw,” explained Coach Gary Voiorl. He has coached the past decade in various leagues including the CYO, Select, Plex and Huntsometown Rec. The Panthers listed 18 on their eighth-grade roster and will be playing next season at the high school level after four fun years under Voiorl and Coach Fernando Ruiz.

**CYO coaches, send scores and highlights to mmc@castlemaman@aol.com**
**Church offers blueprint for life**

**THE VATICAN LETTER**

**CINDY WOODEN**

It has told us again and again of the Risen Lord’s appearances and adorations. It is being very strongly cathedrical. First, it reassures us. Contact with Jesus was not lost with the Ascension, when Jesus returned to the Father. Contact remains, and it remains very clearly in the visible, institutional Church. The Church offers us the service of the modern successors of Peter and the other Apostles. Through them we still hear the words of Christ. In the Sacraments they give us in still the access power of Christ’s eternal life. Finally, in the splendid reading from John’s Gospel, the Church tells us how to live. We must love others.

Gently, gradually, but definitely the Church has entered, and pur- sued, the process of leading us to ask what the Resurrection deeply and really means for each of us individually. Remaining for us is the obvious question: Are we willing to accept the Risen Lord?

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Acts 8:35-8:17 Ps 66:1-7, 10, 20b, Ps 31:2-5, 18b-19b, 145:1-21

**Monday:** Acts 16:11-15 Ps 149:1-6a, 9b, 16b, 15:26-16:4a

**Tuesday:** Zep 3:14-18 (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4bc, 5-6 Lk 1:39-56

**Wednesday:** Acts 17:15, 22-18:1 Ps 116:1-12

**Thursday:** Acts 18:1-8 Ps 98:1-4 Lk 16:20-23

**Friday:** Acts 18:8 Ps 47:2-7 Jn 16:20-23

**Saturday:** Acts 18:23-28 Ps 47:2-3, 8-10 Jn 16:23b-28

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**In God is our trust**

I didn’t know until recently that in the wake of the sexual abuse on our country, some important historical documents were removed from public display and transferred elsewhere for safekeeping. It’s a good thing they were, of course; confusion was the order of the day and no one could say for sure that no further assaults were planned.

It’s easy to guess the identity of some of the priceless documents. The Constitution was probably first among them, and not far behind would be the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. (Right, obvi- ously, on all three of those.) But what about the others? One of them, I confess, was one I hadn’t thought of at first, but once it made sense to me, I could see why...in absolute perfect sense: the original text of Francis Scott Key’s poem, “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

This poem is clearly one of the most frequently quoted verses in the Lord’s own handwriting, the marks still visible from the folds he made to insert it into his breast pocket.

Two stories in The Baltimore Sun, by Jessica Anderson and Edward Gunts, provided a wealth of information about Key and his immortal poem. That’s appropriate, for at the moment the manuscript is on display at Fort McHenry’s new Visitor and Education Center, a $15-million facility that opened in March.

(The document is on loan from the Maryland Historical Society, which will once again make it available to visitors in its own building in downtown Baltimore later this year.)

Fort McHenry was an important link in the chain along the East Coast that provided protection for the fledgling United States of America. Named for James McHenry of Baltimore, who served as secretary of war under Presidents George Washington and John Adams, it gained immortality because Key, a Maryland attorney, wrote his unforgettable lines after watching the Battle of Baltimore (1814) from a nearby fort. The fort had come under heavy bombardment from British forces only three weeks after it had captured and burned Washington. The shelling was intense during the night, lighting up the dark sky with one brilliant flash after another, so much so that observers wondered which side had prevailed. In the morn- ing, through the mist, Key was astonished and overjoyed to see the flag still flying high over the fort, its stars and stripes still “gallantly streaming.” And he wrote down his heartfelt tribute to that flag and to the nation... (Even though it wasn’t officially designated our national anthem until 1931, it was honored for years, especially after being set to music.)

The spirit that Key’s poem inspired would have delighted The Christophers’ founder, Maryknoll Father James Keller, who saw in America’s reliance on Divine Providence the di- fference that separated it from a godless world. I can’t say for sure how often Father Keller read “The Star-Spangled Banner” all through his life, or even if he did. But how he would thrill to these lines from the fourth stanza: “...may the heaven-edaced land Perceive the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation. Then conquer we must when our cause it is just. And this be our motto: ‘In God is our trust.’”

Francis Scott Key’s poem is, simply, a classic. We would all do well to read it in full again, to ponder it, to treasure it. The renewed attention it is attracting this summer gives us a chance to do just that.

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**Sant of the Week**

Augustine of Canterbury
died c. 604
May 29

This monk was prior of a monastery in Rome until 596, when Pope St. Gregory the Great sent him and 30 other monks to evangelize England. They landed in Kent where they got permission to preach because the king’s wife had been a Christian before her marriage. Augustine’s preaching won over King Ethelberht, who became a Christian and gave the monks a house and church in Canterbury. Augustine built England’s first cathedral there; from this see missionaries and bishops were sent around England. He is known as “the apostle of England.”
NFP and the ‘telos’ of sex

Married Catholics today often struggle to understand the morality between using contraceptives to avoid a pregnancy and using natural family planning (NFP). NFP relies on sexual abstinence during fertile periods in a woman’s cycle, as assessed by various indicators like cervical mucus or changes in body temperature. The Church’s prohibition of contraception seems to be at odds with its acceptance of NFP because in both cases, the couple’s intention is to avoid children. That intention, however, is not the problem, as long as there are in the words of Pope Paul VI, “serious motives to space out births.” Dietrich von Hildebrand puts it this way: “The intention of avoiding conception does not imply irreverence as long as one does not actively interfere in order to cut the link between the conjugal act and a possible conception.”

That link between the conjugal act and a possible conception is a key source of meaning for our human sexuality. Sex, by its very nature, involves the capacity and driving energy to produce offspring. Anyone in a high school biology class already understands this. We are able to recognize the purpose (or “telos”) of many different processes in the world: the telos of fire is to generate heat and to consume combustibles; the telos of an acorn is to become an oak tree; the telos of human sexuality is to draw man and woman together to procreate and raise children in the family unit. William May observes, “This is the meaning objectively rooted in the marital act itself and intelligibly discerned in it; it is not a meaning arbitrarily imposed upon or given to the act.”

Seeing the telos of a process can reveal authentic goods toward which we can then guide the moral choices we make.

Any time a married couple engages in sexual activity that has been intentionally rendered infertile by contraception, they are powerfully acting against the telos of the sexual act they share. Elizabeth Anscombe notes how their act is no longer “the kind of act by which life is transmitted,” but is purposely rendered infertile, and so changed to another sort of act altogether. Contraception strikes at the heart of the marital act. When a couple impedes the inherent procreative powers of that act through the use of a condom, pill or other means, they are engaging in disruptive and contradictory behavior by seeking to perform the act on the one hand, while simultaneously blocking it on the other.

In natural family planning, on the other hand, they are not directing any countermeasures towards the fertility of a specific conjugal act; the natural order and telos of the act is respected. As Janet Smith and Christopher Kaczor observe, “Contracepting couples make themselves infertile; NFP couples work with an infertility that is normal.”

Consider an analogy: a woman who is blind wants to talk to her husband each evening and tell him about the events of her day. He, meanwhile, wants to relax in the evenings by listening to baseball on the radio. He decides that while listening to his wife’s talk, he will watch the same time plug in headphones and follow the game, so that attention will be divided between his wife and the game. He will occasionally says things like “yes, dear” and “uh huh” to give the impression that he is listening with full attention.

A woman on the pill similarly gives the impression that she is receiving her husband fully in the marital embrace, while, in fact, she is shutting down her own fertility in order to ward off his fruitfulness. On a deep level, she is rejecting his life-giving masculinity and speaking a false language to him right at the core of their intimacy.

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Sixth Sunday of Easter, Cycle A: the promise of the Holy Spirit. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

A LITTLE WHILE

C O M M A N D M E N T S

A L B E I N Y O U A N U

E I R E H T O N A O Y

N A L T D E S N A Y T A

O I I T H E W O R L D

T E V R K L S T D O J O T

R Y E I S E E M N W A

U O K P E M Y W S D K H

T U S E F A H T E R T

H L E C U O Y E V I G

F L K E M S E V O L S

G A S Y O U L O V E M E


Catholic Communication Campaign collection helps spread Gospel

Dear Bishop Rhodes:

It is essential for the Catholic Church to be where the people are. In today’s world, that often means the Church needs to be digital. As the Holy Father said in his message for World Communications Day this year: “As with every other fruit of human ingenuity, the new communications technologies must be placed at the service of the integral good of the individual and of the whole of humanity. If used wisely, they can contribute to the satisfaction of the desire for meaning, truth and unity which remain the most profound aspirations of each human being.”

The collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) is one way the good news gets around. We are especially grateful for your support and your 2010 donation of $21,850.80. For the faithful or those searching for faith, CCC funding provides rich content, bringing the good news to the world.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Rev. Dennis M. Schnurr
Archbishop of Cincinnati
Chairman, USCCB
Subcommittee on the Catholic Communication Campaign
**Some Catholic reading to stay in touch**

**BY KAY COZAD**

The following are recently published books that have been sent to Today’s Catholic that can touch the fancy of Catholic and non-Catholic readers alike. Each book is reviewed using publishing house press releases and includes publisher name and ISBN number for ease of purchase.

“Meet the Saints,” with an introduction by Bishop Robert F. Morneau, is an informative and inspiring book packed with stories written by popular authors on some of the Church’s most famous saints. Each of the 12 chapters offer the history and charism of three inspiring saints, with a concluding chapter with answers to frequently asked questions.” St. Anthony Messenger Press, ISBN: 978-1-61636-100-2

“Prayer in the Digital Age,” by Matt Swaim, shines some light on the obstacles to prayer that may be encountered in this current digital culture. His use of the wisdom of spiritual masters such as St. Theresé of Lisieux and Pope John Paul II inspires the practical suggestions to incorporate prayer into everyday life. Liguori Publications, ISBN: 978-0-86716-199-7

“Understanding the Mass: 100 Questions, 100 Answers,” by seasoned author Mike Aquilina, is a little book packed with lots of answers to questions you may have about the Catholic Mass. He not only answers practical questions but walks his readers through the Mass with explanations of the meaning behind the prayers and practices. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-0-86716-949-2

**Pope asks space explorers about science, peace, state of the earth**

**BY SARAH DELANEY**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI reached out to outer space to ask astronauts how their unique perspective from the frontier of the universe makes them think about difficult questions back on earth.

In a video hookup May 21 between the Vatican and the International Space Station (ISS) in orbit around the earth, Pope Benedict asked the astronauts how science can help in the pursuit of peace and the need to protect a fragile planet.

Seated at a desk in front of a video screen, the pope could see the 12 astronauts huddled before the camera and trying not to float away from lack of gravity inside the super technological space station. The group included space station crew and members of the final mission of the U.S. shuttle Endeavour.

The pope praised the space travelers for their courage and commitment, and reminded them that after their extraordinary experience, they “must eventually come back down to earth like all the rest of us.”

His first question dealt with violence and war, and was addressed to the Endeavour mission commander, U.S. astronaut Mark Kelly, whose wife, Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, was still recovering after being critically injured in a shooting in January.

Acknowledging the attack and wishing her a full recovery, the pope said, “When you are contemplating earth from up there, do you ever wonder about the way nations and people live together down here, about how science can contribute to the cause of peace?”

Kelly said that because the space station itself was up and running only as a result of the efforts of many countries, it was itself a good model for international cooperation. And because it is operated entirely on limited solar power, he said, better development of that technology on earth could reduce the struggle over energy resources, which is the cause of much of the violence and war in the world now.

Pope Benedict noted that he often spoke of humanity’s responsibility to protect the earth in an ethical manner, and to guarantee the survival of future generations. He asked Endeavour crew member Ron Garan what he could see on earth from his perch in space that needed attention.

Garan said that what was most evident is the fragility of earth and the atmosphere. “To think that this paper-thin layer is all that separates every living thing from the vacuum of space and is all that protects us, is a really sobering thought,” he said.

The pope asked Mike Fincke, mission specialist for the shuttle, what advice he would pass on to children “who will live in a world strongly influenced by your experiences and discoveries.”

The astronaut said that he hoped the space mission would let the children of the planet know... that there is a whole universe for us to go explore. And when we do it together, there is nothing that we cannot accomplish.”

Pope Benedict reminded Roberto Vittori, an Italian member of the Endeavour team, of the medallion decorated with the image of the creation of man, as painted by Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel, which the pope had given him before this mission. He asked Vittori if he remembered Station 8: “планета” is capturing my heart.}

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WHAT’S HAPPENING?

WHAT’S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today’s Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fhogan@fw.diocesesfwb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Questions about faith answered in June Elkhart — St. Vincent de Paul Parish will present a question and answer session with Father Glenn Kohrman each Wednesday in June. The topic for June 1 will be: What is Marriage? The 5:30 p.m. Mass will be followed by a light salad supper with discussion to begin at 6:30 p.m. These sessions are anyone who wants to know more about the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Most Precious Blood hosts fun fest Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood will host a Big Eyed Fish dinner Friday, June 3, from 5-8 p.m. The beer tent will be open from 5-10 p.m. with live music from 7-10 p.m. with Jim Didier and Friends. Saturday, June 4, the Most Precious Blood Fun Fest will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dinner from 4-7:30 p.m. includes Book’s BBQ chicken dinner. The beer tent will be open 6-11 p.m. with the live music of Loose Change from 8-11 p.m. Also included are inflatables, kids games, silent auction, bingo, El Azteca tacos and hot dogs.

Parish festival planned Fort Wayne — St. Jude Parish will have a festival Friday, June 17, with a kids carnival and a Taste of St. Jude from 5-8 p.m. and a beer garden from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Luers Loot garage sale planned Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will have a garage sale Saturday, June 4, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bag sale starts at noon. Donations may be brought to the wrestling room on June 1-2 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Knights plan fish fry Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, June 3, from 5-7:30 p.m. The cost is $7 for adults, $3 for children 12 and under.

Second annual People Fest South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary Parish will celebrate ethnic cultures in the area with People Fest Saturday, June 4, at the 4-H Fairgrounds, 5117 S. Ironwood Rd., from noon to 11:30 p.m. Live music throughout the day and ethnic foods will be offered. Also included will be a raffle, beer garden and dancing. For presale tickets or information, call (574) 287-1700 or visit www.ourladyofhungary.org/peoplefest.

ARISE steering committee being formed Ladies interested in learning more about the 2011 ARISE Women’s Conference are invited to be part of a steering committee to meet Tuesday, May 24, at 7 p.m., at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center in Fort Wayne. There will be food, prizes and a chance to volunteer. RSVP to Natalie Kohrman at (260) 399-1437 or nkohrman@diocesesfwb.org.

All family rosary Fort Wayne — The all-family rosary will be recited on Sunday, May 29, from 3:45-4:30 p.m., at St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel. The intention is for all families.

Vacation Bible School Kendallville — Immaculate Conception Parish, 319 E. Diamond St., will have a Vacation Bible School June 13-17, from 6-8 p.m. Panda Mania — Where God is Wild About You — is for children ages 4-14 at no cost. Call (260) 347-4045 for information.

Knights plan fish fry Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, June 3, from 5-7:30 p.m. The cost is $7 for adults, $3 for children 12 and under.

Inaugural “Run Nun” 5K road/trail race set for May 28 Hunting 3:30 p.m. — the “Nun Run: A Race Like Nun Other!” 5K run/walk will be held Saturday, May 28, featuring a course through Memorial Park, St. Felix Friary and Victory Noll. The run/walk will begin at 8 a.m. near the tank at Memorial Park. Awards will follow. The entry fee is $15 before May 25. The cost then goes to $20. Registration forms are available at Huntington Catholic School main office, Noll Center and the Huntington YMCA fitness desk. Forms may also be requested by contacting Andy Zay at (260) 356-1588 or by e-mail at azay@sbcglobal.net.

All-School Reunion planned Fort Wayne — Central Catholic High School will have an All-School Reunion on June 25 at Classic Catering and Event Center, 4832 Hillegas Rd., beginning at 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact Leanne at (260) 485-0290 or Mary Lou at (260) 485-6164.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Course offered South Bend — Christ the King Parish will host a Level II formation course in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd on June 22-25 and 27-29, for adults interested in learning a Montessori-based approach to faith formation for the six-to-nine-year-old child. Contact Joanie Rymsza at (574) 485-7462 or rymszagj@sbcglobal.net for registration and information.

DONATIONS

Mustard Seed Furniture Bank can use your donations Fort Wayne — The Mustard Seed Furniture Bank accepts donations of bedroom and living room furniture, tables, chairs, beds, linens and towels. Items must be in working order. Donations may be picked up by calling (260) 471-5802. The Mustard Seed is dedicated to providing household furnishings to those in need.

St. Vincent de Paul Store always in need of donations Fort Wayne — Donations are always accepted for cars, trucks and vans. Donations are tax deductible. Call (260) 456-3561 for pick up or drop off at the store, 1600 S. Calhoun St.

Fort Wayne — St. Vincent de Paul Society is in need of specific food items to restock the warehouse. Tuna, jelly, breakfast cereal and canned meals, such as ravioli can be dropped off at a retail location: 3408 Ardmore Trail or SR 23 and Ironwood at Greenwood Plaza. Contact dale. seely@saintvincent-in.org or call (574) 234-6000 ext. 12109 for information.

Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center

“Contemplative Prayer” Conference Retreat with Michael Fonseca July 17 - 22, 2011

Lindenwood is located 40 miles from South Bend and 90 miles from Fort Wayne in Donaldson on Lake Gibralth. Call 574-935-1780 or visit www.lindenwood.org

Italy in October!

Join Father Thom Lombardi, St. Joseph Parish Hessen Cassel, for a pilgrimage to the shrines of Italy, October 4-16, 2011. Travel through the Tuscan countryside to visit Assisi, Florence, Siena, Pisa, Orvieto. Spend several days in Rome visiting St. Peter’s and the other major basilicas. See the Vatican museums and Sistine Chapel. Pray at the tombs of St. Peter, Blessed John Paul II and John XXIII. Celebrate Mass in the catacombs and much more! Optional tours of Italian wineries also available. Total package price (excluding taxes and insurance): $3,269. For more information call: 260-639-3748

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Deacon Stan LeMieux, from St. Patrick, Ligonier, said, “It was the holiest day of my life.” His counterpart, Deacon Robert Byrne from St. Anthony, South Bend, agreed adding, “It’s overwhelming to be able to be called by God to serve his people. When you go through this experience, you know it’s from God.”

Sacred Heart, Notre Dame parishioner Deacon William Gallagher recalled that preparation for this day was intense, but the day always seemed “out there.”

Now it’s here,” he said, “The 11 of us have become family. The men are as close as my brother.” When asked what he expects for the future he said simply, “The sun will come up tomorrow and I’ll serve God the best I can.”

Deacon Jerome Kohrman, parishioner of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, said of the day, “It was a grace-filled day. None of us feel worthy but we’re open to the Lord’s call. I remember that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life.”

Melvin Tardy from South Bend’s St. Augustine Parish agreed and said the Rite of Ordination was “spiritually uplifting.” He believes that “everything is based on faith, so we’ll see where the Spirit leads me.”

And Deacon John Hilger of Queen of Angels in Fort Wayne summed it up for all the newly ordained deacons when he said of the ordination, “It’s as close to heaven as you can get!”

Mary Szymczak, the director of the Permanent Diaconate office for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, told Today’s Catholic, “These guys have tremendous faith. They are true servants of the Church. And they were that before they got into the (diaconate) program.”

She said, “I’ve watched them grow spiritually. I’ve watched their faith grow. I watched their marriages grow and change. It’s been an awesome experience.”

Szymczak said, “They’re going to be an inspiration to the people of this diocese. And we couldn’t have picked a better group to restart the diaconate program.”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1